

**Mansfield Board of Education Meeting**  
**February 7, 2008**  
**Minutes**

**Attendees:** Mary Feathers, Chair, Shamim Patwa, Vice-Chair, Chris Kueffner, Secretary, Dudley Hamlin, Martha Kelly, Mark LaPlaca, Min Lin, Katherine Paulhus, Superintendent Gordon Schimmel, Director of Finance Jeffrey Smith, Board Clerk, Celeste Griffin

**Absent:** Gary Bent

**I.** Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:50 p.m. by Ms Feathers, Chair.

**II.** Approval of Minutes - **MOTION** by Dr Patwa, seconded by Mr. Kueffner to approve the minutes of the 1-31-08 special and regular meetings: **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

**III.** Hearing for Visitors – Mr. and Mrs. John Crepeau expressed concerns regarding a Special Education matter. Mrs. Megan Mickle came forward to express concerns about the district's accommodation of her child's medical needs.

**IV.** Communications – None

**V.** Addition to Present Agenda – None

**VI.** Committee Reports – Ms Feathers reported that the Personnel Committee for the Superintendent Search met earlier and would meet again after the public meeting of the Board.

**VII.** Report of the Superintendent:

A. **Technology Update** – Jaime Russell, Director of Information Technology, assisted by Steve Sokoloski, Jim Griffith (K-4 and 5-8 Technology Coordinators, and Linda Robinson (MPS Library Media Coordinator) reviewed 07-08 initiatives and technology instruction in the schools.

B. **Security Grant Update** – Mr. Russell discussed security measures to be installed in the schools with funds from the Security Grant recently received by the district.

C. **Issues in Regional School Finance** – Tabled until the next meeting.

D. **2008-2009 Proposed Budget** – **MOTION** by Mr. Hamlin, seconded by Dr. Patwa to adopt the 2008-2009 Proposed Budget. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

E. **Personnel** – **MOTION** by Ms Lin, seconded by Mrs. Kelly to accept the retirement of Elizabeth Latino, 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Southeast School effective the end of the 2007-2008 school year.

F.

**VIII.** Hearing for Visitors – None

**IX.** Suggestions for Future Agenda – Dr. Patwa asked for information on the “Exploring the Islands” after-school program. Mr. LaPlaca asked for discussion on Board Goal IV:

“To Increase Board of Education Communication: Parent and School Outreach.” The Chair informed the Board that there will be two new committees implemented this year: A PTA/PTO Liaison for each school and an Environment and Sustainability Committee.

- X.** Adjournment - **MOTION** by Mr. Kueffner, seconded by Ms Lin to adjourn at 10:15 p.m. **VOTE:** Unanimous in favor.

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Celeste N. Griffin, Board Clerk